

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as indicated below. The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for executing a two test executive ~~sequence~~ sequences, the method comprising:

creating a first test executive sequence, wherein said creating the first test executive sequence comprises including a first plurality of test executive steps in the first test executive sequence, wherein each test executive step in the first plurality of test executive steps is included in the first test executive sequence in response to user input to a sequence editor requesting inclusion of the test executive step in the first test executive sequence;

configuring the first test executive sequence to asynchronously call a second test executive sequence, in response to user input;

creating the second test executive sequence, wherein said creating the second test executive sequence comprises including a second plurality of test executive steps in the second test executive sequence, wherein each test executive step in the second plurality of test executive steps is included in the second test executive sequence in response to user input to the sequence editor requesting inclusion of the test executive step in the second test executive sequence;

executing a the first test executive sequence, wherein said executing the first test executive sequence comprises executing the first plurality of test executive steps in the first test executive sequence, wherein said executing the first test executive sequence comprises the first test executive sequence ~~calls a~~ asynchronously calling the second test executive sequence;

executing the second test executive sequence in response to said ~~executing~~ asynchronously calling the first ~~second~~ test executive sequence, wherein the second test executive sequence executes asynchronously from the first test executive sequence.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1,

wherein said executing the first test executive sequence and said executing the second test executive sequence comprise performing one or more tests of a unit under test (UUT), wherein the UUT comprises a hardware device.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1,

wherein said executing the first test executive sequence and said executing the second test executive sequence comprise interacting with one or more hardware devices to test a unit under test (UUT), wherein the UUT comprises a hardware device.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, ~~wherein said executing the second test executive sequence comprises calling the second test executive sequence, the method further comprising:~~

after said first test executive sequence asynchronously calling the second test executive sequence, executing at least a portion of the first test executive sequence without waiting for the second test executive sequence to be executed.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1,

~~wherein the first test executive sequence comprises a first plurality of test executive steps;~~

~~wherein said executing the first test executive sequence comprises executing the first plurality of test executive steps;~~

wherein one or more of the first plurality of test executive steps in the first test executive sequence are executed after beginning execution of the second test executive sequence and without waiting for execution of the second test executive sequence to be completed.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5,

wherein said including the first plurality of test executive steps in the first test executive sequence comprises including a first test executive step in the first test executive sequence;

wherein said configuring the first test executive sequence to asynchronously call the second test executive sequence comprises configuring the first test executive step to asynchronously a sequence call step that calls the second test executive sequence, in response to user input;

wherein said executing the first plurality of test executive steps in the first test executive sequence comprises executing the ~~sequence call~~ first test executive step, wherein the first test executive step executes to asynchronously call the second test executive sequence;

wherein said executing the second test executive sequence is performed in response to said executing the ~~sequence call~~ first test executive step.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1,

wherein said executing the first test executive sequence is performed by a first thread;

wherein said executing the second test executive sequence is performed by a second thread;

wherein the second thread is not the same thread as the first thread.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1,

wherein said executing the first test executive sequence is performed on a first computer system;

wherein said executing the first test executive sequence comprises the first test executive sequence calling the second test executive sequence for asynchronous execution on a second computer system coupled to the first computer system;

wherein said executing the second test executive sequence is performed on a the second computer system coupled to the first computer system.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10 1, ~~further comprising:~~
~~configuring a portion of the first test executive sequence to execute after the~~
~~second test executive sequence completes execution, in response to user input;~~
~~wherein said creating the first test executive sequence comprises including a~~
~~plurality of steps after the sequence call step in response to user input, wherein the~~
~~plurality of steps comprises a first subset of steps and a second subset of steps;~~
wherein the first plurality of test executive steps in the first test executive
sequence includes a first subset of test executive steps that are configured to execute after
the second test executive sequence is asynchronously called and without waiting for the
second test executive sequence to complete execution and a second subset of test
executive steps that are configured to execute after the second test executive sequence is
asynchronously called and after the second test executive sequence completes execution;
~~wherein said executing the first test executive sequence comprises:~~
~~executing the subsequence call step, wherein said executing the second~~
~~test executive sequence is performed in response to said executing the subsequence call~~
~~step;~~
executing the first subset of test executive steps after said asynchronously
calling the second test executive sequence, without waiting for the second test executive
sequence to complete execution;
~~waiting for the second test executive sequence to complete execution, in~~
~~response to said configuring the portion of the first test executive sequence to execute~~
~~after the second test executive sequence completes execution;~~
executing the second subset of test executive steps after the second test
executive sequence completes execution.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11,
~~wherein said configuring the portion of the first test executive sequence to execute~~
~~after the second test executive sequence completes execution comprises including~~
includes a wait step in the first test executive sequence after the first subset of test
executive steps and before the second subset of test executive steps, in response to user

~~input~~, wherein the wait step is operable to wait for the second test executive sequence to complete execution.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1,
wherein said including the first plurality of test executive steps in the first test executive sequence comprises ~~includes~~ including a wait step in the first test executive sequence;

wherein said executing the first test executive sequence includes executing the wait step after said asynchronously calling the second test executive sequence;

wherein the wait step is operable to wait for execution of the second test executive sequence to complete, ~~and retrieve execution results of the second test executive sequence~~ without requiring program code to implement said waiting to be specified.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
in response to user input, configuring the first test executive sequence to wait for execution of the second test executive sequence to complete before returning;
receiving a programmatic call to the first test executive sequence to initiate said executing the first test executive sequence;

wherein, in performing said executing the first test executive sequence and said executing the second test executive sequence, execution of the first test executive sequence completes before execution of the second test executive sequence completes;

wherein the method further comprises:
after execution of the first test executive sequence completes, waiting for execution of the second test executive sequence to complete before returning from the programmatic call to the first test executive sequence.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
configuring a portion of the first test executive sequence to execute after the second test executive sequence completes execution, in response to user input.

16. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for asynchronously executing a test executive sequence, the method comprising:

including a plurality of steps in a first test executive sequence in response to user input, wherein the plurality of steps includes a first step operable to asynchronously call a second test executive sequence, wherein each step is included in the first test executive sequence without receiving user input specifying program code;

including a plurality of steps in the second test executive sequence in response to user input, wherein each step is included in the second test executive sequence without receiving user input specifying program code;

executing the first test executive sequence, wherein said executing the first test executive sequence comprises executing the first step, wherein said executing the first step comprises asynchronously calling the second test executive sequence;

executing the second test executive sequence in response to said asynchronously calling the second test executive sequence, wherein the second test executive sequence executes asynchronously from the first test executive sequence.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16,

wherein the plurality of steps in the first test executive sequence includes a first subset of steps before the first step and a second subset of steps after the first step;

wherein said executing the first test executive sequence comprises:

executing the first subset of steps;

executing the first step, wherein said executing the first step comprises asynchronously calling the second test executive sequence;

executing the second subset of steps without waiting for the second test executive sequence to execute.

18. (Currently Amended) A memory medium for executing a two test executive sequence sequences, the memory medium comprising program instructions operable to:

create a first test executive sequence, wherein said creating the first test executive sequence comprises including a first plurality of test executive steps in the first test executive sequence, wherein each test executive step in the first plurality of test executive

steps is included in the first test executive sequence in response to user input requesting inclusion of the test executive step in the first test executive sequence;

configure the first test executive sequence to asynchronously call a second test executive sequence, in response to user input;

create the second test executive sequence, wherein said creating the second test executive sequence comprises including a second plurality of test executive steps in the second test executive sequence, wherein each test executive step in the second plurality of test executive steps is included in the second test executive sequence in response to user input requesting inclusion of the test executive step in the second test executive sequence;

execute a the first test executive sequence, wherein said executing the first test executive sequence comprises executing the first plurality of test executive steps in the first test executive sequence, wherein said executing the first test executive sequence comprises the first test executive sequence calls a asynchronously calling the second test executive sequence;

execute the second test executive sequence in response to said executing asynchronously calling the first second test executive sequence, wherein the second test executive sequence executes asynchronously from the first test executive sequence.

19. (Currently Amended) The memory medium of claim 18,
wherein said executing the first test executive sequence and said executing the second test executive sequence comprise performing one or more tests of a unit under test (UUT), wherein the UUT comprises a hardware device.

20. (Currently Amended) The memory medium of claim 18, wherein ~~said executing the second test executive sequence comprises calling the second test executive sequence, the memory medium further comprising the~~ program instructions are further operable to:

after said first test executive sequence asynchronously calling the second test executive sequence, execute at least a portion of the first test executive sequence without waiting for the second test executive sequence to be executed.

21. (Currently Amended) The memory medium of claim 18,
~~wherein the first test executive sequence comprises a first plurality of test executive steps;~~

~~wherein said executing the first test executive sequence comprises executing the first plurality of test executive steps;~~

wherein one or more of the first plurality of test executive steps in the first test executive sequence are executed after beginning execution of the second test executive sequence and without waiting for execution of the second test executive sequence to be completed.

22. (Currently Amended) The memory medium of claim 21,
wherein said including the first plurality of test executive steps in the first test executive sequence comprises including a first test executive step in the first test executive sequence;

wherein said configuring the first test executive sequence to asynchronously call the second test executive sequence comprises configuring the first test executive step to asynchronously a sequence call step that calls the second test executive sequence, in response to user input;

wherein said executing the first plurality of test executive steps in the first test executive sequence comprises executing the ~~sequence call~~ first test executive step, wherein the first test executive step executes to asynchronously call the second test executive sequence;

wherein said executing the second test executive sequence is performed in response to said executing the ~~sequence call~~ first test executive step.

23. (Original) The memory medium of claim 18,
wherein said executing the first test executive sequence is performed by a first thread;
wherein said executing the second test executive sequence is performed by a second thread;

wherein the second thread is not the same thread as the first thread.

24. (Currently Amended) The memory medium of claim 18,

wherein said executing the first test executive sequence is performed on a first computer system;

wherein said executing the first test executive sequence comprises the first test executive sequence calling the second test executive sequence for asynchronous execution on a second computer system coupled to the first computer system;

wherein said executing the second test executive sequence is performed on a the second computer system coupled to the first computer system.

25. (Currently Amended) A memory medium for asynchronously executing a test executive sequence, the memory medium comprising program instructions operable to:

include a plurality of steps in a first test executive sequence in response to user input, wherein the plurality of steps includes a first step operable to asynchronously call a second test executive sequence, wherein each step is included in the first test executive sequence;

include a plurality of steps in the second test executive sequence in response to user input, wherein each step is included in the second test executive sequence;

execute the first test executive sequence, wherein said executing the first test executive sequence comprises executing the first step, wherein said executing the first step comprises asynchronously calling the second test executive sequence;

execute the second test executive sequence in response to said asynchronously calling the second test executive sequence, wherein the second test executive sequence executes asynchronously from the first test executive sequence.

26. (Currently Amended) The memory medium of claim 25,

wherein the plurality of steps in the first test executive sequence includes a first subset of steps before the first step and a second subset of steps after the first step;

wherein said executing the first test executive sequence comprises:

executing the first subset of steps;

executing the first step, wherein said executing the first step comprises asynchronously calling the second test executive sequence;

executing the second subset of steps without waiting for the second test executive sequence to execute.

27. (Currently Amended) A system for executing a two test executive ~~sequence~~ sequences, the system comprising:

a processor;

a memory medium ~~storing a first test executive sequence and a second test executive sequence~~;

wherein the processor is operable to:

create a first test executive sequence, wherein said creating the first test executive sequence comprises including a first plurality of test executive steps in the first test executive sequence, wherein each test executive step in the first plurality of test executive steps is included in the first test executive sequence in response to user input requesting inclusion of the test executive step in the first test executive sequence without specifying program code;

configure the first test executive sequence to asynchronously call a second test executive sequence, in response to user input;

create the second test executive sequence, wherein said creating the second test executive sequence comprises including a second plurality of test executive steps in the second test executive sequence, wherein each test executive step in the second plurality of test executive steps is included in the second test executive sequence in response to user input requesting inclusion of the test executive step in the second test executive sequence without specifying program code;

~~wherein the processor is operable to execute the first test executive sequence, wherein said executing the first test executive sequence comprises executing the first plurality of test executive steps in the first test executive sequence, wherein said executing the first test executive sequence comprises the first test executive sequence~~ calls a asynchronously calling the second test executive sequence;

~~wherein the processor is operable to~~ execute the second test executive sequence in response to said first test executive sequence asynchronously calling the second test executive sequence;

wherein the second test executive sequence is executed asynchronously from the first test executive sequence.

28. (New) The method of claim 1,

wherein for each test executive step in the first plurality of test executive steps, no user programming is required to include the test executive step in the first test executive sequence;

wherein for each test executive step in the second plurality of test executive steps, no user programming is required to include the test executive step in the second test executive sequence.

29. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

displaying a graphical user interface of the sequence editor, wherein the graphical user interface provides access to test executive steps available for inclusion in test executive sequences;

wherein said including the first plurality of test executive steps in the first test executive sequence is performed in response to user input received to the graphical user interface requesting inclusion of the first plurality of test executive steps in the first test executive sequence;

wherein said including the second plurality of test executive steps in the second test executive sequence is performed in response to user input received to the graphical user interface requesting inclusion of the second plurality of test executive steps in the second test executive sequence.

30. (New) The method of claim 1,

wherein said executing the first test executive sequence comprises executing the first test executive sequence under control of a test executive engine, wherein the test

executive engine is operable to execute each of the first plurality of test executive steps in the first test executive sequence.

31. (New) The method of claim 30,

wherein each test executive step in at least a subset of the first plurality of test executive steps in the first test executive sequence is configured to call an external code module;

wherein for each test executive step in the at least a subset, executing the test executive step comprises the test executive engine invoking execution of the external code module called by the test executive step.

32. (New) The method of claim 30,

wherein said executing the second test executive sequence comprises executing the second test executive sequence under control of the test executive engine, wherein the test executive engine is operable to execute each of the second plurality of test executive steps in the second test executive sequence.

33. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said creating the first test executive sequence further comprises:

for at least a subset of the first plurality of test executive steps in the first test executive sequence, receiving user input to the sequence editor specifying an external code module for the test executive step to call and configuring the test executive step to call the external code module in response to the user input.

34. (New) The method of claim 33, further comprising:

for each test executive step in the at least a subset, displaying a graphical user interface for configuring the test executive step, wherein said receiving user input specifying the external code module for the test executive step to call comprises receiving user input specifying the external code module to the graphical user interface for configuring the test executive step.

35. (New) The method of claim 13, further comprising:
displaying a graphical user interface for configuring the wait step; and
configuring the wait step to wait for execution of the second test executive sequence to complete in response to user input to the graphical user interface specifying configuration information for the wait step.

36. (New) The memory medium of claim 25,
wherein said including the plurality of steps in the first test executive sequence and said including the plurality of steps in the second test executive sequence are performed without receiving user input writing program code.